

George Hatch House
830 Dayton Street
Cincinnati
Hamilton County
Ohio

HABS No. OH-2200-G

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HABS
OHIO
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. OH-2200-G

GEORGE HATCH HOUSE

Location: 830 Dayton Street, Cincinnati,
Hamilton County, Ohio.

Within the Dayton Street Historic District, USGS
Covington Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator
Coordinates: 16.713800.4332700, 16.713780.4332230,
16.713250.4332410 and 16.713110.4332750

Present Owner: St. Andrew Roumanian Orthodox Church

Present Occupant: St. Andrew Roumanian Orthodox Church

Present Use: Church

Significance: This is the largest of the houses in what is now designated
the Dayton Street Historic District and in terms of its
architectural character the least typical. Whereas the
other houses bear the architectural characteristics of the
Victorian era, this one still retains the flavor of the
earlier Neo-classic period, and as a consequence brings
a diversity to the styles of that district.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. The house stands on a parcel of land originally sold on October 13, 1794 to Jonathan Dayton of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, for \$42,897.00 by John Cleves Symmes, who obtained the original patent for the Miami Purchase from the United States Congress. William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States, on October 1, 1818, as an executor of the estate of Symmes, and as then Governor of the Indiana Territory, re-negotiated the sale, inasmuch as the original deed was said to have been lost. Because of the riots and fire of 1884, the records contained in the Hamilton County Court House were either partially or totally destroyed, thus making the present records an incomplete source of information. It is known from the remaining records that George Hatch sold the property to Adolphus H. Smith on February 15, 1860 for \$30,000. The most notable resident associated with this house is George Hatch.
2. Date of erection: 1850-1851. The diaries of Isaiah Rogers in Avery Library at Columbia University, New York City, contains numerous references to this house. The first known deed reference is dated March 10, 1851, when Hatch purchased the property.
3. Architect: Isaiah Rogers (1800-1869)

4. Alterations and additions: According to city plat maps of 1884 and 1891, additions to both the northeast and northwest corners were made between those dates.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the House:

George B. Hatch was born on July 11, 1813. During his earlier years he was involved in various real estate enterprises, and, among other properties in the area, owned the house under consideration. He subdivided the parcel of land attached to this house, selling the westernmost 35' to Maria Hickenlooper and the remaining 115', with the house, to Adolphus Smith. He married Rachael Avery, whose father had originally subdivided land in the area. At one time he also owned the John B. Hatch Co., which manufactured soap and candles. He was Mayor of Cincinnati from 1861 to 1863. Upon completion of his term of office, he left the city owing to the political disfavor into which he had fallen as a result of his strong view concerning the issues surrounding the Civil War. He favored the South and went to Florida, where he purchased St. Vincent's Island. He died on August 1, 1875 and is buried there.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old views: None known.
2. Bibliography:

Purchase by George Hatch: Deed Book 195, Page 136

Cincinnati Enquirer, December 24, 1922

Cincinnati's Mayors, published by Young and Klein, Inc.
Cincinnati, 1957

Gene Smith, "St. Vincent's Island," Florida Wildlife,
Vol. 23, No. 4, Sept. 1969, pp. 12 and 13

Prepared by: Carl A. Saladino
Project Historian
National Park Service
August, 1974

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This imposing center hall plan residence of Italianate character is the largest house on Dayton Street.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This two-and-a-half story structure measures approximately 56'-0" by 87'-0" with two rounded bays on the front flanking an octagonal entrance porch.
2. Foundations: Brick and stone.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Primarily gray painted sandstone. There are a few exposed brick walls which are also painted gray.
4. Structural system, framing: Masonry bearing walls.
5. Porches: There is a covered octagonal entrance porch on the front supported by painted stone corinthian columns. There is also a porch at the north east rear of the house facing the east side yard. It has an ornamental iron railing.
6. Chimneys: There are eight chimneys. Seven are in exterior walls and one is in the wall between the stair hall and the west parlors.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The primary entrance is from the octagonal entrance porch. The door is 4'-0" by 10'-0" with a large frosted glass panel. There is an arched transom of leaded glass with the number "830." An entrance with paired doors and a vestibule on the west side leads from the porte cochère to the stair hall.
 - b. Windows: Double-hung with curved frame and glass in front bays. One-over-one-light in (south) front and one-over-one and six-over-six-light elsewhere.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Flat with a variety of shallow drainage pitches all covered with rollroofing and tarred.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Bracketed wooden cornice on the main block and bracketed metal cornice on the porte cochère and east bay.
 - c. Cupolas: Low octagonal cupola is centered on roof.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:
 - a. Basement: Numerous storage, heating, etc. rooms as well as a kitchen and at the northeast corner of the basement a large meeting room.

- b. First floor: Large parlor on the east with two parlors separated by a pair of sliding doors on the west. The front entrance hall leads to a large stair hall and adjacent open area, both of which are now used as a Roumanian Orthodox Church. At the rear of the house are the former dining room and service rooms.
 - c. Second floor: At the front there are two rooms (originally bedrooms) each side of a center hall, and a small room over the octagonal entrance porch. Opening off the main stair landing is a room over the porte cochere. East of the stair hall is a room, and to the rear are two additional bedrooms, a bath, and the service stairs.
 - 2. Stairways: The primary stair is at the west side of the stair hall. An imposing and grandly scaled space, the stair hall is open to the second floor ceiling and a skylight, while the U-shaped staircase rises to the second floor along the north, west and south walls. The railings are supported on paneled parapets. A service stair is in the northwest area of the house.
 - 3. Flooring: While there is 3" pine flooring throughout most of the house, there is encaustic tile in the lower floor entrance hall and stair hall.
 - 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster.
 - 5. Doorways and doors: Ten-foot-high wooden doors with raised molding defining various numbers of panels. Casings are wooden.
 - 6. Special decorative features: The major first-floor rooms have painted ceilings and friezes of various scenes. In addition, the first floor rooms contain numerous examples of perimeter ceiling ornament of egg and dart, and acanthus and dentil moldings. There are also numerous marble mantelpieces in varying conditions throughout the house.
 - 7. Notable hardware: None.
 - 8. Mechanical equipment: None of note.
- D. Site:
- 1. General setting and orientation: Located on the north side of Dayton street, this imposing structure is in the middle of the block once known as "Millionaires Row."
 - 2. Outbuildings: None.

Prepared by: J. William Rudd
Project Supervisor
National Park Service
August, 1974

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These data are part of the documentation made during the 1974 Cincinnati Project undertaken by HABS in cooperation with the Miami Purchase Association and City of Cincinnati. Records were made of a part of the Dayton Street Historic interest Area of the City of Cincinnati.

The project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The project supervisor was J. William Rudd of the University of Cincinnati. The project historian was Carl A. Saladino of the Ohio State University. The measured drawings for the project were prepared by architects Steven B. Kells (University of Cincinnati) and Richard Wyatt (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo), and student assistant architects William Maxwell Miller (University of Pennsylvania) and Osbourne K. Simms III (University of Illinois, Chicago Circle). The photographs were taken by HABS photographer Jack E. Boucher in July 1982.